

New York Tribune.

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A Decision That Is Likely to Defeat Justice

The Court of Appeals decision ordering a new trial for Becker will probably result in a defeat of justice. It is unlikely that the District Attorney will be able to get together his witnesses so as to secure another conviction. It is the kind of decision which has led to many defeats of justice.

If the community cannot punish a murderer like Becker it is a crying scandal. If a judge of nearly a score of years' experience like Justice Goff cannot conduct a case so that a conviction obtained in his court will stand it is a crying scandal. If our trial system is so complicated, so convoluted that such a judge makes numerous blunders in the course of one trial, it is time that the system was changed.

The public applauded Justice Goff's conduct of the Becker trial. Our trial system in his hands seemed to have been revived.

What seemed to the public an efficient avoidance of the scandalous delays that usually mark our big criminal trials the Court of Appeals denounces as haste. What seemed to the public a vigorous assertion of the authority of the bench and a proper curbing of the abuses of defendant's counsel playing for time and for the support of the Appellate Court the Court of Appeals calls prejudice. If vigor is to be imparted to our trial system, if justice is to be done and done quickly, it must be along the lines of Justice Goff's conduct of the Becker trial. The Court of Appeals decision strikes at this hope.

The magnified conception of the functions of appellate courts which has made trial judges timid and their courts inefficient inspires this decision. The opinion of the majority is largely made up of criticisms of the way the trial judge conducted his case. Justice Goff is said to have erred in this and erred in that, to have shown haste here and prejudice there. He is scolded for his sharpness to defendant's counsel, although with all due respect he said he was the best judge of whether or not the tactics of such counsel were calculated merely to waste time or to establish the basis of appeal, which they did successfully, to the higher court.

Some hope might be felt for better things in the courts if the Court of Appeals had expressed sympathy with the purposes of Justice Goff and had pointed out in moderate language where he exceeded the bounds of judicial safety in his vigorous assertion of authority on the bench. But in Justice Hisecock's digest of his opinion no such attitude is visible.

The higher court represses the trial court with great firmness and reasserts its own overshadowing importance in the scheme of justice even by usurping in a measure, as Justice Werner points out in his dissenting opinion, the jury's function of passing on the credibility of witnesses. The purpose is the praiseworthy one of preventing injustice from ever being done. The result is likely to be in this case to prevent justice from being done.

What Every State Should Do.

The Governor of Georgia expects to appoint within a few days a United States Senator to fill *ad interim* the vacancy caused by the death of Augustus O. Bacon. This appointment will not challenge the rule recently laid down by the Senate in the case of Mr. Glass, appointed Senator by the Governor of Alabama. Georgia is a community in which keeping the Legislature in session is a valued means of public entertainment, and that body, sitting almost uninterruptedly in Atlanta, has had ample time to apply locally the provisions of the amendment to the federal Constitution regulating the election of Senators.

Under the terms of the amendment the Legislature has conferred power on the Governor to make temporary appointments pending the filling of vacancies by direct vote. The Alabama Legislature had not conferred such power on Governor O'Neal, and the Senate for that reason turned down his appointee. It may be convenient in many instances to have a Governor make a temporary selection. Every state ought, therefore, through its Legislature, to follow Georgia's example in qualifying the Governor to act in emergency cases.

Rough Economy by the Axe Method.

Economy by the axe method, such as the Assembly Ways and Means Committee has tried in revising the state appropriations, is bound to be rough. The public will rejoice to learn that more than \$3,500,000 has been chopped from the department estimates as submitted to the committee. It will not grieve over the fact that no appropriations at all have been made for the Department of Efficiency and Economy and for the State Fire Marshal. These bureaus were filled with Democratic jobholders and easily cost the state more than they were worth. The annual appropriation for the prizefight commission might be omitted, too, with profit to the state.

It is different with the State Probation Commission and the Commission on New Prisons. Neither of these bodies spends a great sum annually. The latter, engaged on the task of substituting a big, healthful prison for Sing Sing, is only a temporary organization. The Probation Commission does a necessary, valuable humanitarian work, which

is an important part of the general penal agency of the state government. Cuts of this nature are penny wise, pound foolish. Economy is highly desirable in the state's business, but it should be applied with sense.

The Governor's Appointments.

Governor Glynn's latest appointments are creditable. Judge Purcell, appointed to the Supreme Court to succeed Justice Hisecock, who moved on to the Court of Appeals, is highly thought of in Northern New York, where he has served as County Judge and filled a vacancy in the Supreme Court. He is a rugged, straight thinking lawyer whose legal training has not ousted his common sense.

Seymour Van Santvoord, who fills one of the vacancies in the upstate Public Service Commission, acted as counsel to Governor Dix without any especial damage to himself or the state, if without especial distinction. He is one of the ornamental Democrats whom the Governor likes to have around him because they do not rock of Tammany, although Mr. Van Santvoord has taken part in a couple of Murphyzed conventions. His reputation as a business man in Troy is good.

The Governor may not construct a brilliant administration out of such material, but it should be a steadygoing one.

France at the Fair.

The official participation of France in the Panama-Pacific Exposition seems now to be assured. There never has been much doubt of it, provided the United States itself did its duty in the matter. We may now assume that France is satisfied that her exhibitors will have proper copyright protection for their designs, a circumstance which is no less gratifying than the participation which it assures.

That this action of France will have any effect upon Great Britain and Germany, to induce them to reconsider their abstention, is not to be expected. But it gives increasing promise that the exposition, in spite of some absences, will be of commanding magnitude and of interesting character. Of course, even the nations whose governments decline officially to participate will be largely represented by private enterprise. In some respects, it is said, all the more largely because of and to atone for the official abstention.

There will be a great gathering of the nations at the fair, whether official or unofficial, and the occasion will be worthy of the guests.

The Day of the Dog.

Dogs of all degrees, we sing. Hundreds of the very highest rank and title are now yapping and baying and growling at the Palace Show. Family trees are theirs, as long as a duke's pedigree. Eugenically, they so far surpass poor humans as to justify a most disdainful attitude.

But it is of a dog as a dog and not as a family tree or a Eugene or a Eugenia that we care to speak. The Dog Show is one large yelp of delight, not one-tenth so much because of the noble lineage displayed as because of the fine, friendly nature overflowing the scene.

We like to think of the dog as one of the few denizens of this world of a carefree age now dwindling out. He belongs with the time when the question asked was not "Is this useful?" but "Is this fun?" We seem to remember that Mr. Henry Sydnor Harrison once defended a certain pup as "a pleasure dog"—or rather his heroine did in addressing a young man named Qued. Certainly the usual dog is utterly inefficient if judged by up-to-date standards. He consumes food which might keep hens who might keep down the cost of living. The wear and tear which he works in a house, translated into dollars and cents, would probably be enough to supply the family with postage stamps on odd Sundays.

Confronted by such damning evidence of uselessness, what can the poor dog say? Only that he is the best of friends and company, as full of affection and humor as Mark Twain at his best. For which utterly uneconomic but quite sufficient reasons, long may he wag!

Make the Coroners Move On.

The bill of the Short Ballot Association, which is designed to get rid of the coroners, should have all possible encouragement to speed it on its way to passage. Abolishment of the coroners' jobs would relieve the political system of a verminiform appendix and the ballot of names which shouldn't be on it.

This bill would substitute for the coroners a chief medical examiner and subordinates. The present coroners would be retained with diminished powers until the expiration of their terms; then the place would go out of existence. It should. The coroner as a judicial officer is a joke; as a criminal investigator he is only less a joke. Inquests seem to be necessary in many cases of sudden or suspicious death. Where they are, they should be conducted by duly qualified physicians working with men from the District Attorney's office and the Police Department. The coroner may have been a useful official once, but he has outlived his time.

Double-Salaried Patriots.

The new Mayor of Boston has abandoned his curious intention of serving his city and his country at one and the same time, incidentally drawing down two salaries for his services. When inaugurated as Mayor Mr. Curley was a member of the House of Representatives, and instead of resigning from the latter body he tried to keep his name on the federal payroll. His friends said that he was going to follow the example of David B. Hill, who held the office of Governor of New York for nearly ten months after his term had begun as United States Senator.

So long as Mr. Hill did not go to Washington and qualify as a Senator Congress had nothing to do with the case. It would even have paid him his back salary if he had demanded it, on the theory that the state should have protected itself against compensating a multiple officeholder. When a Senator or Representative accepts a state office Congress is pretty prompt to shut off his salary. A precedent was set several years ago when Representative Lilley became Governor of Connecticut. He tried in vain to draw double pay, and his name was stricken from the House roll. Mr. Curley would also have been dropped if he hadn't resigned yesterday.

Congress is very censorious nowadays when it comes to paying absentees who have entered into outside political contracts.

Maybe those mysterious Japanese visitors in Mexico are simply comparing Popocatepetl with Fuji-yama.

No pure radium used? Then what of the goodly company of patent medicines which are supposed to contain an ounce or two of it in solution in each dollar bottle?

The Conning Tower

"The Majesty of the Law."

The shades of night were falling fast,
As they have done for ages past.
When—some in black and some in red—
The papers hollered this here head:

BECKER GETS NEW TRIAL

There was a man in our town,
Whose character was frail;
He jumped into a gamble-bush,
And landed in the jail.

But when they saw that he was in,
So sorry did they feel,
They cried "Fiat Justitia!"
And granted an appeal.

I remember, I remember
The day he went to jail.
The editorials in The World;
The headlines in The Mail:
It was a childish ignorance,
But now it makes me mad
To know he is as far from justice
As when I was a lad.

They can put you in jail for a lot of things, or
fraction thereof, but they can't keep you there.

Well, a new trial for Becker doesn't mean, of
necessity, that he will be declared innocent, but, like
golf, it will keep him out in the comparatively open
air.

The esteemed Vanderbilt Hotel is not alone, as
the Yale Record said, built and owned by a Yale
graduate; it is not alone, as the Harvard Lampoon
said, designed by a Harvard graduate; but it is also,
take it from the Princeton Tiger, "built on the site
of the old Princeton Club and the place in New York
to make glad the Sons of Old Nassau."

Commercial candor from a Providence, R. I., gro-
cery: "Only One Trial Will Please You."

Mexico

By MAWRUSS PERLMUTTER.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 24.—People is funny, and
I am no exception from that rule. Yesterday I
was sore on the whole *Megillah* down here; to-day
you couldn't drive me away *mit* wild animals. On
account why? On account everything here now is
difference.

This morning I am walking by the cigar-stand
when who do I see there but J. Kriehlmann, which
I used to know him when I done baseball games
for Kranzlein Reiss's paper. "How do you do, Mr.
Kriehlmann," I says. "How is Reiss and Bernheim
Mandel and Jake Endersohn and all the boys?"
"Hello, Mr. Perlmutter," says Kriehlmann, and he
offers me one them D-2 cigars, "how is the cloak
business?" "The cloak business," I says, "is all
right, but for my part, Mr. Kriehlmann, I ain't got
nothing to do *mit* it here, being, Mr. Kriehlmann,"
I says, "here on business for the Cohninghauer
concern. Might you would know some news may-be?"

"What are you talking nonsense I would know
some news?" he says. "I'm old Benjamin W. News
himself. What kind of news do you want?"
"Well," I says, like I was in a sample-room,
"what kind have you got?"

"Ah," he says, "about this here Werther. The
feller is *positively* the worst lowlife I ever seen.
All the time drinking and fooling round in tough
joints till all the hours of night, and Mrs. Werther
staying up worrying. There he goes now," he says,
and then I seen Werther.

Werther is a old man, which I didn't think he
would be, loafing around like that, which is *unehr-
haftig* a *schand*. He is a rotten dresser, and has
got on a old 3-button sack suit, varsity-style, like
Joe Schaffner put out world's fair year in Chicago.
"What is he hollering?" I asked Kriehlmann.
"Orders," he says. "He is giving orders." "Well,"
I says, "I don't see no reason why I shouldn't take
a order, *grad so gut* as them drummers," and I run
up to him. "If you are placing any orders for the
fall and winter," I says, "Mr. Werther, might we
could get some of your trade," I says, "Potash &
Perlmutter," I says. "And you wouldn't find a de-
cent, whiter, more up-to-date house nowhere,
bar none," I says. But he walked right by me,
showing what a impolite *roacher* he is, just like
Kriehlmann told me, but Kriehlmann says he will
have him talk to me later. Kriehlmann says he will
it, too, I bet you.

I asked Kriehlmann if he had ever been before
on a war, and he told me from five o'clock after-
noon till three in the morning, and we wasn't past
Manila Bay yet. I only wanted to know either was
he *oder* wasn't he, not the whole history of the
known world, understand me.

But about Werther, it is like this: You put a
schorner on horseback and he would ride like the
devil. Besides, it is a old saying and a true one
that a rolling stone comes home like chickens to
roost.

Huerta may punish the pulque rather hard, as Cor-
respondent Creelman implies, but he gets quickly
over his soshes. In yesterday's *Afternoon Edition*
of the *Evening Mail* the head was, "Drink-Mad
Huerta Revels," but by the time the *Home Edition*
was out, an hour and forty minutes (if memory
serves) later, it was "Money-Mad Huerta."

Complete characterization from "When Ghost
Meets Ghost": "Our little boy was the sort of boy
you were sorry was ever going to be eleven."

IT'S A PIPE.

E. P. A.: Why don't the Broadway sign old man Pan-
the w. k. right-pasture? The old boy's in the p. of c.
and he'd play for a song. a. to a. EDAR.

No Trace of Other Missing Foreigners, Whom It
Is Feared Have Been Put to Death.—New Bedford
Mercury.

"Whom are you?" said Cyril.

THE WORLD'S ROUND; THE COLUMB'S SQUARE
It's good Columbus didn't write.
It's good he never knew
A thing about contributing.
In fourteen ninety two.

Now if he wrote for the Columb
And got where we all get.
Maybe Old Chris Columbus
Would not have landed yet!

HARRY N. GIBB.

It matters not at all, which is sufficient reason here
to mention that A. Holy plays the harp in the Bos-
ton Symphony Orchestra.

Query for jewelers: Does a wrist-watch have a
feminist movement?

E. P. A.

DISARMING JUSTICE.



THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for
Public Debate.

GOVERNOR GLYNN'S FOLLY

The Retired Judge Scheme Starts Some Words of Reproof.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: At the last election the District
Attorney was elected by an overwhelming
majority of votes to expose and punish
the bosses and grafters who have been
plundering the treasury of the State of
New York by fictitious contracts and
other plundering methods.

Governor Glynn is opposed to the activi-
ties of District Attorney Whitman. Gov-
ernor Glynn proposes that seven aged and
retired judges shall investigate the graft-
ers. Governor Glynn may find one hun-
dred obstructions to this investigation,
but none will be satisfactory to the citi-
zens of the state but the performance
of the work by Mr. Whitman. The last
election was a declaration that the in-
vestigation and punishment of the public
thieves must be made completely and
made by Mr. Whitman.

If Governor Glynn attempts to defeat
the investigation of the bosses and
thieves, then the only reply which the
citizens can make is to elect Mr. Whit-
man at the next election for Governor.
The Assistant District Attorney can be
elected District Attorney, so as to obtain
a trustworthy and competent man who
will not be defeated by the bosses.
New York, Feb. 24, 1914. CITIZEN.

THE ONE ETERNAL PROBLEM

The Dark Side of Domestic Service Is Set Forth.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Having read the article in your
paper on unemployed women by Mrs.
Moorwood, I venture to say her experience
must be as a guest at the week-end parties
which some of the ladies who live in
the country give, so they cannot get on
the same idea as the girl looking for work.
What does the working girl get? Four-
teen or sixteen hours' work a day; meals,
what is left, when it is left, and from ex-
perience, I can say it is not unreasonably high
wages. I personally know of a few very
inconsiderate mistresses and houses with
all modern improvements which do not
always reach the working girls' sleeping
apartment.

Too lonesome is not the only thing to be
said. The village or town may be two
miles or fifty. You may dream about it or
walk. A few months' experience in the
country on trolley cars during weather
like the present as a working girl may
make Mrs. Moorwood put a different arti-
cle in The Tribune by the first of May.
Experience teaches.

MARIA COSTELLO.

New Canaan, Conn., Feb. 18, 1914.

HELP THE CONSTITUTIONALISTS

A Reader Urges Recognition for Carranza.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: I confess my imagination is alto-
gether too insouciant to see the analogy
your correspondent, E. J. Van Alstyne,
attempts to draw between our Civil War
and that now existent in Mexico.

Lincoln's government was born in the
people's will and founded on the bed rock
of equal rights; whereas Huerta's so-
called "government," on the contrary,
was conceived in ignoble ambition and
based alone on treachery and murder.
Mr. Van Alstyne says: "Huerta, at
least, has a Congress with him." Can it
be possible that this gentleman, who, in
his attempted defence of the most no-
torious villain of the age, strains at gnats
and with such ease swallows camels, does
not know that the present pseudo "Con-
gress" is wholly of Huerta's creation? Is
he unaware of the fact that the only Con-
gress representative of the Mexican peo-
ple was, at Huerta's command, illegally
dispersed and the members thereof incar-
cerated, because of the very fact that it
was not "with him?"

If the lifting of the embargo "proves to
be a costly boomerang" it will be be-
cause of the equal facilities thereby of-

fered Huerta to secure needed munitions,
with which, perchance, he may be
able to perpetuate himself in power, and
not by reason of the aid thus rendered the
Constitutionalists.

The President merits criticism, not be-
cause of his sympathies for the rebels,
but rather for his failure to openly and
courageously support them by granting
Carranza *de facto* recognition; for, with
the moral and financial support that would
thus accrue to their cause, an early ter-
mination of the conflict, resulting in the
evitable "peace with honor," would un-
doubtedly ensue. E. C. LOCKE.

Monticello, N. Y., Feb. 19, 1914.

THE HOMELESS HOME

Another Criticism of Working Girls' Institutions Is Made.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: I heartily agree with the writer
of that letter in The Tribune recently re-
garding "homeless homes"—institutions
called "Christian homes for working
girls." I know many girls who have
lived in these homes, and one and all
agree that they are detrimental to a girl.
In the first place a girl entering one is
obliged to lose all respect for herself—she
is called an "inmate"—she is considered
as a dependent, an object of charity,
when the truth is every girl who lives in
such a "home" pays for all she gets, and
many of them pay for a good bit more
than they get.

Your correspondent is correct in saying
that the superintendent is "all powerful
at the expense of the inmates." Her
power is the same as Charles Murphy's,
and it is used in the same way that un-
limited power given to almost every man
or woman would be used. A man man-
aging a house conducted like one of these
institutions, for his own profit, could and
would give the girls more and better food
and would cast into the junk heap the
cast iron rules which are made on the
presumption that every girl is unpun-
ished and bad. He would also make a
good profit out of it for himself at the
same time without increasing the price a
week.

The only thing about these homes that
is good is that they afford an opportunity
for girls to get together and make friends
in this big, lonely city. But better for a
girl to live in the tiniest flat bedroom on
the top floor of a boarding house and
keep her self-respect—for that is her
chief possession, her best protection—
and in the end it will not cost her more
even in money, for she will get whole-
some, good food and more of it for a
very little more money a week; she will
not be thought so disreputable that she
will have to be watched with suspicion
all the time; she will have the pleasant
feeling that she is not only paying for
what she gets, but that those around her
know she is self-supporting and self-re-
specting; and as for friends, she can join
one of the many girls' clubs now in New
York City to cover just such desires and
needs—the new kind of clubs, I mean,
those of the twentieth century—for self-
respecting girls and women. N. C.

New York, Feb. 24, 1914.

SUICIDE AND THE SUBWAY

Some Thoughts on How Self-Destruction Can Be Prevented.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: It is a wonder to me that there are
not more people killed by the subway
trains rushing into the stations than
there really are. The recent "suicide,"
so to speak, which occurred at the 181st
street station on last Monday, brings to
the surface the grave necessity of mak-
ing some provision to prevent the recurrence
of such acts.

Whether the man committed suicide or
not I will not question, but I do know
that the trains rushing into a station at
a terrific rate of speed and with a pre-
ponderance of noise of such hideousness
temporarily upset a person's mentality
and charge him so with fear as to blind
his mind and stifle his wits.
The speed and crashing of the train

give the assurance of so certain a death
that a person with a weak will carrying
the smallest worry is tempted to
fling himself beneath its wheels. If a
person is standing near the edge of the
platform at the time the train passes
the suction caused by its mass and ve-
locity is enough to pull him helplessly
against the train, with deadly consequence.

It is an undisputed fact that a reme-
dy often saves us the suffering of man-
"blind" acts, and I would suggest that the
officials of the Interborough Transit com-
missioner that just before his train en-
ters the station he blow his whistle with
all the shrieking that it is capable of vi-
brating, so as to "wake up" those who
are unaware of the frightfulness of the
chance they are taking. It is a psycho-
logical fact that a daily routine produces
a habit of action and a stagnancy of
thought that eventually become deadly
even to the minutest task.

I would also suggest that on each sta-
tion where the placing of rods cannot
be immediately and satisfactorily done
there be a white painted line—say
about one and one-half or two feet from
the platform—to be known as the "dang-
er line," and all persons should remain
behind that line until the train comes to
a standstill.

There is no such thing as "cure" in
subway accidents, and prevention should
be installed long before the urgency be-
comes too apparent by irreparable loss.
JOSEPH J. LEWIS.
No. 322 West 186th street, Feb. 21, 1914.

BRITAIN AND MEXICO

No New Crisis Is at Hand, but Pan American Intervention Should Be Considered.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Your admirable editorial in to-
day's Tribune succinctly expresses what
not only the administration but all the
people should keep clearly in mind when
it says: "The execution of William B.
Renton, a British subject, by General
Villa's order, injects no new element of
anarchy into the Mexican situation."
And your words: "Great Britain has
recognized Huerta, and from the point
of view of international law must look
to him for reparation." is a point fairly
well taken just now, when the press full
teems with intimations that England
more and more insistently insinuates
the falsity that the United States Gov-
ernment is in duty bound to intervene
with arms where, as every honest man
perceives, armed force will avail it
nothing.

Pan-American concerted action should
be officially invited if only to test the
willingness of the better South Ameri-
can governments to diplomatically arm
themselves against the kind of lawless-
ness now existing in Mexico. But that
they would involve themselves in
diplomatic representations is extremely
doubtful, and it therefore remains for
the United States to school our own peo-
ple against resort to arms in this un-
usually bungled matter.

ALFRED LAURENS BRENNAN.

New York, Feb. 22, 1914.

AS SHE IS SPOKE IN INDIA

Some amusing examples of Babu Es-
lish are given in "The London Globe."
A railway official, overcome with grief
at the death of his aged mother, tele-
graphed to headquarters:
"I am profoundly moved to announce to
your honor that the aged hand that has
far has rocked my cradle has now been
the bucket! Worful lamentation parades
my breast, unable to work."
arrange?"

It is customary in India for the govern-
ment to allow a small sum to feed the
kept by watchmen to destroy rats. The
practice was responsible for a telegram
from one of the stations to this effect:
"Sad to relate, without leave on ac-
tory fambols. Have promoted junior to
to perform duties of senior cat. Lol!"
a catastrophe is here!"
No pun was intend-